

1905 COMES IN WITH A ROAR,

COWBOYS HELPING OUT THE HORNS THAT GRIEVED HIM.

Man With a Sooty Topper Made to Smash Girls Even With the Girls at Trinity.

The Old Year, just about to take his departure over Trinity temple, the point where he always pops out, was introducing his successor to the world and giving him points on the game he was going to play. The Old Year always picks the area of sky just over Wall street to make his exit, because, as he explained last night, time goes fastest there. The New Year looked down over two or three hundred thousand people operating two or three hundred thousand noise machines, and his face assumed an expression like that of a New York man trying to find his way through a Brooklyn street.

"That are all these people doing in this place?" he asked.

"They're here to listen to Trinity chiming," said the Old Year.

"But isn't it singular that they come here to listen and then make so much noise that they can't hear?"

"It would be singular if this were not New York," said the Old Year who grew prescient about November, when he realized that his administration would be remembered only for the start of a big war and the dullest Presidential campaign in history. "By the time you've been up against the New Year game as long as I have, you'll stop wondering at anything they do. When I was as young as you I used to waste a lot of time wondering why they do the way they do it in New York and Birmingham. Well, so long. Don't take any Carnegie notes."

For just then the hands on City Hall clock came together at 12, an idiot with fourteen cowbells leaped into the air and let them go, 300,000 noise machines went off together, and the New Year covered up his ears and blinked.

"They told me I'd have to listen to the fate of Port Arthur and the Talbot coast," he said, "but I was never wiser up to anything like this."

Down town and uptown it was the same old noise, only noisier, if anything, than usual. Trinity Church printed the same old list of times in the evening papers, and ran through the programme for the benefit of the bell ringer. The crowd, as usual, was the biggest of the history of New York.

In the downtown district, where Trinity is the focus, the Jan came late. At ten o'clock one could still pass quite comfortably by the corner of Broadway and Wall Street. They packed in fast after that, though Inspector Titus and 150 patrolmen kept away from the immediate front of Trinity church, all because they are excavating for the subway at that point, and the engine doesn't need sure that the braces would hold.

This will go down as the New Year of the cowbells. That particular variety of noise destroyer first made its appearance in last year's celebration. This year they were sold by thousands. People who were flush bought whole strings of them. The genuine noise fiends operated a horn with one hand and a cowbell with the other.

Some of the street vendors sold a protected horn with a wooden button over the mouthpiece. Cautious persons bought these. Incautious persons, bidding farewell to the old, dissolute life, bought the other kind, the horn with a nice, pointed, tin edge. They would tout about two toots, and then some one would collide with the horn and the tin edge would run with human force for a time. It had a grand sobering effect.

Along about 11 o'clock a boy with a bass drum and another with a bugle came marching down Broadway. A girl with a six-foot horn fell in and played drum major. Behind them about 500 horn blowers made an irregular line and tooted in rhythm to the beat of the drum. These drummers joined them, and this procession kept jangling up and down Broadway until, long after 1905 arrived. Now and then a few weak brothers fell out, dead to the world but as fast as they fell others took their places.

The New Year girl was here, there and everywhere—she and her horn. Some girls rode in carriages, as long as the police would let them, and tooted in the ear of every passerby who looked good to them. Now and then one was inconsistent enough to say "Sh!" when the tooter responded by begging the honor of her acquaintance, but usually this kind of girl wanted an escort, and got him. Then there was the girl who took it as a solemn duty to make a noise, and tooted with her horn turned toward the ground, three times a second. There was the girl who came just to rub her eyes and covered her ears and said "My goodness!" every time a horn was tooted in her ear.

Last year the mob took to smashing tail hats. This year some villainous person got even. He was a small man, and he wore a very conspicuous tail hat, of a suspicious dullness. He would edge his way close to a girl, those girls who were light gloves preferred. Then he would tout his horn and wait for some one to smash.

The hat smashed beautifully, but when the girls pulled their hands away their white gloves were a sight. Then with a coarse laugh he'd dodge into a doorway, straight out the hat, which was a collapsible theatrical hat, dust it all over with soot again from a package he carried in his pocket, and start out for another set of victims.

About midnight the escort of a girl who had spoiled her only dress gloves smote him heavily in the eye, and the joke was on him.

This was a real water wagon New Year, and every bar put up the little collapsible screen at 12 o'clock sharp and began to sell sandwiches, thus blunting it as it was time to start in on the good resolutions.

Just when Trinity chiming were supposed to be peeling their merriest a procession of stern faced men swept out from a building on Park row opposite the Post Office. Each carried a typewriter (machine) over his shoulder. A car guided bore a sack of potato peels and ready shovels in a short & noiseful of conservative individuals, but noiseful politics was bidding farewell to Park row and moving on uptown.

Trinity chiming began to peel at 12.30.

BATTLE WITH A MANIAC.

Lunatic Killed After He Had Stabbed Keepers and Fellow Patients.

Patrick Corrigan, 50 years old, an inmate of the Essex county hospital for the insane at Newark, was killed yesterday by the keepers and other patients in the institution. Corrigan, who was a gambler, was committed to the hospital three months ago after going on a spree. He had abstained from drink for twelve years, but when he went to the hospital he was suffering from acute alcoholism. After a few days he was discharged as cured, but he developed a murderous mania and threatened the lives of other gamblers and the police. He was sent back to the hospital.

Yesterday he managed to get a big table for a table in the dining room, and entering a room in which keepers Charles Herder and Samuel Rudden were talking, he stabbed Rudden through the nose with the fork and seizing him, thrust him out of a door which closed with a spring lock. Then he attacked Herder, who clinched with him. Corrigan bit off a piece of Herder's left ear and stabbed him twice with the fork.

Herder wrestled with him and got him to the door, which Rudden and several patients were trying to break down. Herder managed to reach the latch and release the door. The crowd outside rushed in and then began a fight, which ended with Herder on top.

Meanwhile Corrigan had thrust the fork into several mild patients who tried to assist the keepers. Corrigan was carried to a bed, where he died a couple of hours later. An autopsy showed that three ribs on one side and five on the other were crushed and that his intestines were ruptured. Corrigan had no relatives in Newark, but was born and passed most of his life there.

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HIGH OFFICIALS ARE INDICTED

SENATOR MITCHELL AND CONGRESSMAN TO THE BAR.

Presented by the Federal Grand Jury in Portland, Ore., for Participating in the Great Land Frauds—District Attorney Hall Removed From Office.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31.—United States Senator Mitchell and Congressman Binger Hermann, former Commissioner-General of the Land Office, were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury to-day for conspiracy to defraud the United States Government of public lands. John H. Hall, United States Attorney at Portland, was also removed by the direct order of the President, and this taken here to indicate that the Administration intended to vigorously prosecute the alleged offenders.

It is regarded as significant that Hall was indicted for reappointment by Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann of Oregon. It is charged that the public prosecutor in the land fraud cases has obstructed justice, shielded certain prominent men and attempted to prevent certain persons from giving testimony before the Federal Grand Jury.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Secretary Hitchcock of the Interior Department expressed no surprise when informed to-night that the Federal Grand Jury sitting in Portland, Ore., had returned indictments against United States Senator Mitchell and Representative Binger Hermann, former Commissioner-General of the Land Office. In fact, he frankly declared that he had expected it for several days.

Just before they left for Portland ten days ago, to appear before the Grand Jury, Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann gave out interviews in which there were strong hints at persecution on the part of Secretary Hitchcock in connecting the names of these two with the land fraud cases on the Pacific Coast. Secretary Hitchcock, however, declined to say anything for publication, because he said the matter was entirely in the hands of the Department of Justice and the authorities at Portland, their representatives. To-night, however, after learning of the indictment of the two members of Congress, he said:

"This is all bosh about there being anything personal in my notions toward these two men, or any others who have figured in the investigation that has been in progress for two years in hunting down land frauds. It is the culmination in the case of one, at least, of over two years work. There will be further investigation, and no person, man or woman, who has been guilty of defrauding the United States Government, or the public domain will be spared, be he high or low, rich or poor."

"The investigation and prosecutions in the land fraud matter have been in strict accordance with the principle of pure and clean government for which President Roosevelt stands, and the developments are coming thick and fast in the nature of a vindication of the high principle of honest government represented by the President."

The investigation has been conducted all over the West, and will be extended further in all the public land States.

Relative to the removal of District Attorney Hall, Secretary Hitchcock would say little except to acknowledge when asked if Hall was regarded as standing in the way of the Grand Jury investigation that such was not a had guess.

Special Attorney Honey, who is conducting the Grand Jury investigation, will now have full charge. It was upon his recommendation that Secretary Hitchcock and Attorney-General Moody acted in recommending Hall's removal. Late this afternoon the Attorney-General appointed Oliver E. Nagin, a special assistant attorney of the Department of Justice at Chicago, to assist Mr. Honey, and instructed him to proceed at once to Portland.

Senator Mitchell is alleged to have received money from the promoters of the gigantic land fraud scheme for services rendered in the land office here while Hermann was Commissioner-General of the Land Office. He is so charged, it is said, in the confession of Snyder, one of the trio against whom indictments were found at San Francisco.

Representative Hermann was practically forced out of the land office by Secretary Hitchcock after it was found that Hermann was withholding a report from a special inspector containing the confession of Snyder, which involved him. He returned to Oregon, and was elected to the present Congress on June 1, 1903, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Thomas H. Tongue, who had succeeded Hermann in the Fifty-fifth Congress.

This was regarded by Hermann and his friends as a vindication, and every time his name has been mentioned since, the land fraud investigation they have charged Secretary Hitchcock with persecuting an innocent man.

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FOUND AN \$18,000 NECKLACE.

And Returned It to Mrs. C. T. Barney, Says Electric Vehicle Man.

A man who said he was H. H. Knepper, secretary of the Electric Vehicle Company, which has a garage at Broadway and Thirty-ninth street, telephoned the newspapers last night that he wanted to tell of an honest man, Herman Dudgeon, Dudgeon, he said, was a driver for the company, and on Friday called with an electric brougham for Charles T. Barney at Park avenue.

He drove Mrs. Barney, according to the man on the telephone, to Tiffany's, where she bought an \$18,000 pearl and diamond necklace. Mrs. Barney left the necklace in the brougham, and it was found by Dudgeon when he arrived at the garage. The manager sent Dudgeon to the house with the necklace.

Yesterday, Knepper said, an envelope came to the garage from Mrs. Barney containing a New Year's present of \$500 for Dudgeon. Mrs. Barney said over the telephone last night that he hadn't heard anything about the loss of a necklace. One of the servants in the house admitted, however, that Mrs. Barney had mislaid some jewelry.

RICH WOMAN'S BODY IN MORGUE.

Dropped Dead in Auction Room—No Wait for Identification.

Mrs. Elvira Hoffman, a wealthy widow, who lived with her daughter at 121 West Ninety-sixth street, left her home yesterday afternoon to go to an auction sale at 116 West Seventy-ninth street. Mrs. Hoffman had been there only a short time when she staggered and fell.

An ambulance was summoned from Roosevelt Hospital, but before it arrived with Dr. Clark the woman was dead. It is thought that she was a victim of heart disease or apoplexy.

There was nothing in her possession which would lead to her identification, and the body was taken to the West Sixty-eighth street station. Mrs. Hoffman was a Persian landowner, carried a handsome moustache. The police, however, sent her body to the Morgue in a patrol wagon without much delay.

Mrs. Hoffman did not return home at dinner time her daughter became worried and, reading in an evening newspaper that an unidentified woman had dropped dead in an auction room, went at once to the West Sixty-eighth street police station in a cab, taking a maid with her.

The police referred her to the Morgue and there she identified the body. She was very angry that the body had been sent to the Morgue.

HIGGINS TAKES THE OATH.

Sworn In as Governor in the Secretary of State's Office in Albany.

ALBANY, Dec. 31.—This afternoon Governor-elect Frank W. Higgins took the oath of office before Secretary of State John F. O'Brien. The oath was administered in the office of the Secretary of State in the presence only of the members of the Governor's family, including Mrs. Higgins, the new Governor's only daughter, Miss Josephine Higgins, his eldest son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Thirl Higgins and his other son, Frank Thirl Higgins.

The public swearing in of the new Governor will take place in the Assembly chamber at noon on Monday, but as Gov. Odell's term expires at midnight to-night it was decided that Mr. Higgins should swear in to-day privately.

Mr. Wilcox has appointed G. B. Shepard, who has been secretary of the West End Association in New York city, as his confidential stenographer. He is to report John T. Joyce as pardon clerk, Edgar L. Marlin as notarial clerk and Messengers O'Connor and Lamborn.

Gov. Odell will reach Albany to-morrow night and stop at the Hotel Ten Eyck. Mrs. Odell will not accompany him.

WILCOX IN CHARGE.

New York's New Postmaster Takes Over the Funds at Midnight.

William R. Wilcox virtually took possession of the New York Post Office at midnight last night. There was no ceremony attending the transfer, except the signing of the receipts for the money, stamps and other things for which the Postmaster is responsible.

Representatives of the Postmaster and his assistants were busy all day yesterday taking an inventory of the stock. The bank was filed and the oath of office taken a week ago.

The formalities connected with the installation were postponed till Tuesday on account of the holidays. At that time all the heads of the city departments will be present, and Mr. Wilcox will assume active control.

Mr. Wilcox said yesterday that he did not wish to say anything yet about changes in the management of the Post Office. He said that he would make a list of departments and to locate himself first, said the new Postmaster.

The inventory shows that Mr. Wilcox will have nearly \$1,000,000 in cash on hand in with on Tuesday morning. Some of the main items are as follows:

Stamps, postal cards and stamped envelopes, \$1,000,000
Cash taken in since Saturday noon, \$50,000
Cash taken in since Sunday noon, \$50,000
Total, \$1,100,000

The office showed a profit of \$10,000,000 for the year.

JUDGE FURMAN GOES FREE.

Schwartzkopf Falls to Make Good His Complaint of Perjury.

TROY, Dec. 31.—John Schwartzkopf failed this afternoon to make good his complaint of perjury against his former law partner, ex-Judge Edgar L. Furman. Police Justice Jones, after a long argument for delay, dismissed the warrant for want of prosecution.

Mr. Schwartzkopf pleaded for an adjournment to allow him to produce witnesses. He said he wanted the Sheriff of New York to attend, and protested to William B. Hornum, former Senator from Albany, who he said was a friend of his. He asked for time "for reasons of grave public policy."

He declared that he had been handicapped from the start and tried in vain to get an attorney in Troy. Lawyers in New York, he said, were willing to appear, but because of the holiday season they could not come.

Judge Furman had the prominent members of the bar, including William J. Roche, Lewis E. Griffith, former Senator from Albany, and others, present in his behalf. Schwartzkopf said he had been unable to retain a lawyer in this city, although he had spoken to Hornum. The announcement of the dismissal of the warrant against Mr. Furman was greeted by derisive laughter on the part of the friends of the defendant.

Wahle Won't Be Park Commissioner.

Charles G. F. Wahle, the leader of the German Democracy, has declined the office of Park Commissioner in the Bronx.

WOMAN SUES AMZI L. BARBER.

VIOLATED BUTLER BUTLER WANTS \$7,500 ON HIS DRAFTS.

She Belongs in London, But Says the Asphalt Man Gave Her the Drafts in 1903—When She Got to London Drummond's Refused to Pay Them.

A queer suit, in which Amzi L. Barber, president of the Barber Asphalt Company, figures as defendant and a woman as plaintiff, has been begun in the Supreme Court, and none of the persons concerned in the case is willing to explain what really lies back of the action.

The woman plaintiff is Violet Aubrey Butler, and she describes herself as a resident of London, England. She alleges in her complaint that on Oct. 1, 1903, Amzi L. Barber made and delivered to her, in New York city, for a valuable consideration, two drafts, reading as follows:

LONDON, Oct. 31, 1903.
Messrs. Drummond:
Pay to self or order six hundred pounds, £600.
A. L. BARBER.

Both drafts, according to the plaintiff, are endorsed on the back, "A. L. Barber, making them payable to bearer, and are stamped in accordance with the English fiscal laws."

Miss Butler, if she is a Miss, alleges that the drafts were duly presented for payment at the banking house of Messrs. Drummond, London, but payment was refused. Mr. Barber was notified of this refusal according to the plaintiff, but he has not paid either of the drafts, or any part of them.

She asks the court, therefore, to give her a judgment for \$2,916 on the first draft, with interest from the date of drawing, and \$1,810 on the second, with interest.

Bernard Lockwood appears as counsel for the plaintiff, but he declined yesterday to reveal what was the alleged "valuable consideration" named by his client in her complaint. He refused to speak about the action in any way, beyond saying that he had received it from his London legal correspondent in the regular course of business.

Mr. Barber's attorneys are Niles & Johnson. Mr. Niles, of that firm, has charge of the case, but he also declined to discuss the action against the asphalt man. Mr. Niles said that, as soon as the other side gave any sign of willingness to talk about the nature of the consideration that is alleged to have passed between Mr. Barber and Miss Butler, he would make a public statement, but not until then.

Mr. Barber, Mr. Niles declared, has had nothing to say either personally or through counsel.

MR. AND MRS. NOBLE QUARREL?

Miss Burnell Now Said to Have Told Persons She Heard They.

Some new testimony will be introduced before the Grand Jury in Queens county, which will consider the case this week of Mrs. Josephine Leighton Noble, charged with shooting her husband, Paton Noble, on the night of Nov. 12, to show that Miss Loretta Burnell, the young actress, told a number of persons of a quarrel between husband and wife which she had overheard just before the two shots were fired. The language used by the couple during the alleged quarrel is said to be known. Each threatened the other with violence, according to the testimony to be introduced. The shooting, which Mrs. Noble says was accidental, followed immediately.

Mrs. Noble remained in the apartment, according to testimony taken at the examination, for several minutes before she ran distractedly down stairs, clad in short undershirt, and with the revolver, which she had meantime "broken," in her hand.

Miss Burnell, who resides with her parents in the apartment below that occupied by the Nobles, is an attractive girl of 20. She ran out of the building, as was shown at the inquest and at the examination before Magistrate Healy, to secure help after Mr. Noble had run down stairs as described and entered the Burnell apartment. It was while she was out seeking help, according to the witnesses who will give testimony before the Grand Jury, that she told several persons the details of a quarrel she had overheard.

The names of the witnesses were revealed by the person who gave the information, but only as evidence of good faith and upon condition that they be withheld from publication until after the Grand Jury has deliberated. These witnesses, it is said, are prepared to swear to the details of the alleged quarrel as related to them by Miss Burnell. They assert that the quarrel was very violent and that threats of personal violence were made by each.

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